Multi-Dimensional Problems of Calcutta

731. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the multi-dimensional problems of Calcutta metropolitan city, namely, density of population, migration into the city, overcrowding in Rapid Mass Transport System, Calcutta Port, Calcutta Airport etc.

(b) if so, description of the problems, item-wise; and

(c) the response of Government in relation thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Urban Development being a State subject, the details of individual city problems such as density of population, migration into city and over-crowding in rapid mass transport system, etc. are monitored and maintained by the state Governments (for Calcutta, by Government of West Bengal). As far as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport at Calcutta is concerned, there is no over-crowding problem at present. In respect of Calcutta Port, there is no congestion excepting year-to-year problem of draft in river Hughli due to siltation.

(c) Considering the problems of Calcutta, the city has been included under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Infrastructural Development in Mega Cities. Under this scheme, funds for undertaking infrastructural development works are being made available from 1993-94. During last year, a sum of Rs. 16.1 crores of Central assistance was released to Calcutta.

With a view to minimising the use of personalised vehicles and reducing the traffic on urban roads in Calcutta, Ministry of Railways has taken up the construction of a metro rail corridor of 16.5 Kms. from Dum Dum to Tollygunge. Out of this, 14.65 kms (from Dum Dum to Girish Park and Tollygunge to Central) has already been opened to traffic. Government of West Bengal has also got a Feasibility Study conducted by M/s RITES for extending the above Metro Corridor from Tollygunge to New Garia over a distance of 8.45 kms.

Financial Assistance to Private Publishers by National Book Trust

732. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Book Trust provides financial assistance to the private publishers for the publication of books; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEMENT (DEPTT. EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Book Trust, India, provides financial assistance to authors

and publishers for producing books of an acceptable standard at reasonable prices for students and teachers of Indian Universities and technical institutes under its scheme for the subsidised publication of books. The books are published in English, Hindi or in any other language listed in the 8th schedule of the constitution.

The books subsidised under the scheme are those for which a definite need is felt and which relate to subject areas where books of an acceptable standard are either not available or are so highly priced to be beyond the means of the majority of students.

The author receives royalty equal to 20% of the published price of the subsidised edition of the book, directly from the Trust, on publication of the book. The publisher is paid 50% of the total cost of production of the book, as subsidy.

Over 800 titles have been subsidised under the scheme since its inception in 1970.

Need to Check Brahmaputra's Floods in Jorhat Town

733. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the river Brahmaputra is now only few kilometers away from the Jorhat town and the only protective measure to check the southward advance of its course is the only embankment at a distance of one Km. from the Nimati Ghat, which is also in danger; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Brahmaputra river is about twelve kilometers away from the Jorhat town. At present, the embankment on left bank from Hatisal to Neamatighat-Dainigaon and in downstream of Kokilamukh is providing protection to Jorhat twon from floods in Brahmaputra. The erosion of the left bank on river Brahmaputra at Neamatighat is tending to move southwards towards the embankment and the embankment is presently 1.00 to 1.50 kilometer away from river bank.

(b) To check the shift of Brahmaputra river course in southward direction due to erosion at the Hatisal-Neamatighat areas Government of Assam has submitted to the Union Government in July, 1995 an anti erosion scheme titled 'Protection of Dainigaon-Hatisal-Neamatighat area against the erosion of Brahmaputra river' at an estimated cost of about Rs. 32 crore. The scheme is under appraisal by the Central agencies.

अनिवासी भारतीयों द्वारा इस्पात संयंत्र स्थापित करने हेतु प्रस्ताव

734. श्री चिमन भाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को अनिवासी भारतीयों व बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों से देश के विभिन्न भागों में इस्पात संयंत्र व अन्य संबद्ध इकाइयां स्थापित करने हेतु अनेक प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्राप्त हुए प्रस्तावों पर अब तक सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई की गई है;

(घ) उपर्युक्त प्रस्तावों में से उन प्रस्तावों की संख्या क्या है जिन्हें सरकार ने मंजूर कर दिया है; और

(ङ) प्रत्येक प्रस्ताव में कितनी राशि अंतर्ग्रस्त है और उन राज्यों के क्या नाम है जहां प्रस्तावित संयंत्र स्थापित किए जाने की संभावना है?

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष मोहन देव): (क) से (ङ) निजी क्षेत्र में इस्पात संयंत्रों और अन्य संबद्ध इकाइयों की स्थापना करने के लिए अप्रवासी भारतीयों और बहुराष्ट्रीय कम्पनियों से प्राप्त प्रस्तावों का ब्यौरा संलग्न विवरण में दिया गया है।